

PART 214—NONIMMIGRANT CLASSES

■ 3. The authority citation for part 214 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 8 U.S.C. 1101, 1102, 1103, 1162, 1182, 1184, 1186a, 1187, 1221, 1223, 1281, 1282, 1301–1305 and 1372; section 643, Pub. L. 104–208, 110 Stat. 3009–708; section 141 of the compacts of Free Association with the Federated States of Micronesia and the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and with the Government of Palau, 48 U.S.C. 1901 note, and 1931 note, respectively.

§ 214.2 [Amended]

■ 4. In § 214.2, paragraph (c)(1) is removed and reserved.

PART 231—ARRIVAL–DEPARTURE MANIFESTS

■ 5. The authority citation for part 231 is revised to read as follows:

Authority: 8 U.S.C. 1101, 1103, 1182, 1221, 1223 and 1229.

§ 231.1 [Amended]

■ 6. In § 231.1, paragraph (b) is removed and reserved.

PART 233—CONTRACTS WITH TRANSPORTATION LINES

■ 7. The authority citation for part 233 is revised to read as follows:

Authority: 8 U.S.C. 1103, 1182, 1223.

§ 233.3 [Removed and Reserved]

■ 8. Section 233.3 is removed and reserved.

Dated: August 2, 2003.

Tom Ridge,

Secretary of Homeland Security.

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**10 CFR Part 140****RIN 3150–AH23****Adjustment of the Maximum Retrospective Deferred Premium**

AGENCY: Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is amending its regulations to increase the maximum secondary retrospective deferred premium for liability insurance coverage in the event of nuclear incidents at licensed, operating, commercial nuclear power plants with a

rated capacity of 100,000 kW or more. Currently established at \$83.9 million per reactor per incident (but not to exceed \$10 million in any 1 year), the maximum secondary retrospective deferred premium is being increased to \$95.8 million per reactor per incident (but not to exceed \$10 million in any 1 year). The change is based on the aggregate percentage change of 14.2 percent in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) from December 1997 through March 2003. The Price-Anderson Amendments Act of 1988 requires that this inflation adjustment be made at least once each 5 years. The increase in the primary nuclear liability insurance layer, which was increased on January 1, 2003, to \$300 million, is also reflected in this rule.

EFFECTIVE DATE: August 20, 2003.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ira Dinitz, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555–0001, telephone (301) 415–1289, e-mail ipd1@nrc.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Part 140, “Financial Protection Requirements and Indemnity Agreements,” provides requirements and procedures for implementing the financial protection requirements for certain licensees and other persons pursuant to section 170 of the Atomic Energy Act (AEA) of 1954, as amended. Section 140.11(a)(4) specifies the amount of financial protection required of a licensee for a nuclear reactor that is licensed to operate, is designed for the production of electrical energy, and has a rated capacity of 100,000 kW or more. This amount is currently set at the sum of \$300 million (which, as the statute requires, reflects the maximum commercial insurance available effective January 1, 2003) and the amount available as secondary financial protection in the form of private liability insurance under an industry retrospective rating plan. The limits on secondary financial protection are currently \$83.9 million per reactor per incident (plus any surcharge assessed under subsection 170o.(1)(E) of the AEA) for the maximum standard deferred premium and \$10 million per reactor per incident per calendar year.

Section 15, “Inflation Adjustment,” of Public Law 100–408, the Price-Anderson Amendments Act of 1988 (“the Act”), enacted on August 20, 1988, requires the Commission to adjust the amount of the maximum standard deferred premium (currently \$83.9 million) based on inflation. Section 15 of the Act added a new Section 170t to the AEA, which provides as follows:

t. *Inflation Adjustment.*—(1) The Commission shall adjust the amount of the maximum standard deferred premium under subsection b(1) [Section 170b(1) of the AEA] not less than once during each 5-year period following the date of the enactment of the Price-Anderson Amendments Act of 1988 in accordance with the aggregate percentage change in the Consumer Price Index since—

(A) such date of enactment, in the case of the first adjustment under this subsection; or

(B) the previous adjustment under this subsection.

(2) For purposes of this subsection, the term “Consumer Price Index” means the Consumer Price Index for all urban consumers published by the Secretary of Labor.

The inflation adjustment required by section 170t (1)(B) of the AEA must be made at least once during the period from August 20, 1998, to August 20, 2003, and must be in accordance with the aggregate percentage change (since December 1997) in the CPI for all urban consumers, as published by the Secretary of Labor. The aggregate percentage increase in the CPI from December 1997 through March 2003 is 14.2 percent. When the percentage increase is applied to the current \$83.9 million maximum retrospective deferred premium, the new maximum retrospective deferred premium will increase to \$95.8 million per reactor per incident. The limit of \$10 million per reactor per incident per year will be unchanged.

To implement this inflation adjustment, the Commission is revising 10 CFR 140.11(a)(4), effective August 20, 2003, to require large nuclear power plant licensees to maintain, in addition to \$300 million in primary financial protection, a new maximum standard deferred premium of \$95.8 million per reactor per incident (but not to exceed \$10 million in any 1 year). Because this inflation adjustment by the Commission is essentially ministerial in nature, the Commission finds that there is good cause for omitting notice and public comment (in the form of a proposed rule) on this action as unnecessary, in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act of 1946 (5 U.S.C. 553b).

The next inflation adjustment in the amount of the standard deferred premium will be made not later than August 20, 2008, and will be based on the incremental change in the CPI since March 2003.

Voluntary Consensus Standards

The National Technology Transfer and Advancement Act of 1995, Pub. L.